IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An indicator for characterizing human skin condition comprising:

a flowable carrier, suitable for application to human skin; and

at least one dye soluble with oil found on human skin, the at least one dye being carried by the flowable carrier and the at least one dye changing in color or color intensity ~~visually changeable~~ when in solution with oil on human skin[[;]], wherein ~~any~~ a visual change color or color intensity in the at least one dye is proportional to the amount of the oil present in solution[[;]],

wherein, in response to~~whereby when~~ the indicator ~~is~~ being applied to an area of human skin[[,]] and the at least one dye ~~contacts~~contacting and ~~reacts~~ reacting with the oil in the area, the indicator ~~will display~~ displays a visual change in the color or color intensity of the at least one dye as a visual indication of the skin condition in the area based on the amount of the oil in the area.

2. (Original) The indicator of claim 1 wherein the flowable carrier comprises water and at least one rheology modifier.

3. (Original) The indicator of claim 2 wherein the at least one rheology modifier comprises a ceramic material.

4. (Original) The indicator of claim 3 wherein the at least one rheology modifier comprises a clay material.

5. (Original) The indicator of claim 4 wherein the at least one rheology modifier comprises bentonite clay.

6. (Original) The indicator of claim 2 wherein the at least one rheology modifier comprises a polymer material.

7. (Original) The indicator of claim 6 wherein the at least one rheology modifier comprises a high molecular weight homo- or copolymer of acrylic acid crosslinked with a polyalkenyl polyether.

8. (Original) The indicator of claim 6 wherein the at least one rheology modifier comprises methylcellulose.

9. (Original) The indicator of claim 6 wherein the at least one rheology modifier comprises polyvinyl alcohol.

10. (Original) The indicator of claim 1 further comprising at least one opacifier.

11. (Original) The indicator of claim 10 wherein the at least one opacifier comprises titanium dioxide.

12. (Original) The indicator of claim 1 wherein the oil comprises sebum.

13. (Original) The indicator of claim 1 wherein the at least one dye is encapsulated in at least one material that is altered when in contact with the oil secreted by the human skin.

14. (Original) The indicator of claim 1 wherein the at least one dye comprises at least one Drug and Cosmetics colorant.

15. (Original) The indicator of claim 14 wherein the at least one Drug and Cosmetics colorant comprises at least one of violet 2, yellow 11, and red 17.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) The indicator of claim 1 and further comprising a reference whereby the user can characterize the skin condition with the assistance thereof.

19. (Original) The indicator of claim 18 wherein the reference comprises a chart having indicia representative of a plurality of skin conditions and captions associated with each of the plurality of skin conditions whereby a user can align the chart in register with a particular area of the activated indicator and compare the indicia on the chart with the particular area of the indicator to determine the skin condition as described by the caption associated therewith.

20. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the flowable carrier is spreadable.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the flowable carrier is peelable.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the flowable carrier is a gel.

23. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the flowable carrier is a powder.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of employing a flowable indicator for characterizing skin condition, the method comprising ~~the following steps~~:

applying the flowable indicator to a desired area of skin, wherein the flowable indicator includes at least one dye which changes in color or color intensity when in solution with at least one substance found on human skin, wherein a visual change color or color intensity in the at least one dye is proportional to the amount of the oil present in solution, and ~~wherein the indicator is reactive with at least one substance found on the skin;~~ wherein ~~activating~~ the flowable indicator is activated in response to ~~through~~ a reaction of the flowable indicator with

the at least one substance found on the skin after a period of time to effect a visually discernable change that is a visual change in the color or color intensity of the at least one dye of the flowable indicator; and

comparing the visually discernable change of the activated flowable indicator to a reference to characterize skin condition.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ waiting for the flowable indicator to activate.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ determining if the flowable indicator is activated.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ waiting further for the flowable indicator to activate if the user has determined that the flowable indicator is not yet activated.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ determining appropriate cosmetics for use with the characterized skin condition.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ determining appropriate cosmetics for use with the characterized skin condition.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ providing a visual reference for comparison of the visually discernable change of the activated flowable indicator to a standardized reference point to determine skin condition.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ determining appropriate cosmetics for use with the determined skin condition.

32. (Currently Amended) An indicator for characterizing human skin condition comprising:

a flowable carrier[[,]] suitable for application to human skin; and

at least one dye carried by the flowable carrier, the at least one dye being soluble with oil found on human skin[[,]] and being encapsulated in at least one material included in the flowable carrier, the material being altered ~~when~~ in response to contact with the oil secreted by the human skin, ~~and visually changeable when in solution with the oil on human skin;~~ wherein ~~any visual change in~~ the at least one dye displays a visual change in color or color intensity in response to the at least one material being in solution with the oil on human skin, the visual change in color or color intensity being ~~is~~ proportional to ~~the~~ an amount of the oil present in solution[[;]],

~~whereby when~~ wherein, in response to the indicator ~~is~~ being applied to an area of human skin[[,]] and the at least one dye ~~contacts~~ contacting and ~~reacts~~ reacting with the oil in the area, the indicator ~~will display~~ displays a visual change in the color or color intensity of the at least one dye as a visual indication of the skin condition in the area based on the amount of the oil in the area.

33. (Currently Amended) An indicator for characterizing human skin condition, the indicator comprising:

a flowable carrier, suitable for application to human skin; and

at least one dye being carried by the flowable carrier and being soluble with oil found on human skin, wherein the at least one dye displays a visual change in color or color intensity ~~and visually changeable~~ when in solution with the oil on human skin[[;]], and wherein the ~~any~~ visual change in color or color intensity ~~the at least one dye~~ is proportional to ~~the~~ an amount of the oil present in solution, ~~and the visual change is an appearance of a color;~~

wherein, in response to~~whereby when~~ the indicator ~~is~~ being applied to an area of human skin[[,]] and the at least one dye ~~contacts~~ contacting and ~~reacts~~ reacting with the oil in the area, the indicator ~~will display~~ displays a visual change in the color or color intensity of the at least one dye as a visual indication of the skin condition in the area based on the amount of the oil in the area.

34. (Currently Amended) An indicator for characterizing human skin condition, the indicator comprising:

a ~~flowable~~ carrier[[,]] suitable for application to human skin; and

at least one dye being carried on the carrier and being soluble with ~~oil~~ at least one substance found on human skin, wherein the at least one dye displays a visual change in color or color intensity ~~and visually changeable~~ when in solution with the at least one substance, ~~oil on human skin; wherein any visual change in the at least one dye is proportional to amount of the oil present in solution, and the visual change is a change in intensity of a color;~~

wherein, in response to the~~whereby when~~ the indicator ~~is~~ being applied to an area of human skin[[,]] and the at least one dye ~~contacts~~ contacting and ~~reacts~~ reacting with the oil in the area, the indicator ~~will display~~ displays a change in color or color intensity as a visual indication of the skin condition in the area based on the amount of the oil in the area.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of employing a flowable indicator for characterizing skin condition, the method comprising ~~the following steps~~:

applying the flowable indicator to a desired area of skin, wherein the flowable indicator is reactive with at least one substance found on the skin so as to change in color or color intensity in response to exposure to the at least one substance[[;]] and wherein ~~activating~~ the flowable indicator is activated in response to ~~through~~ a reaction of the indicator with the at least one substance found on the skin;

waiting for the flowable indicator to activate;

determining if the flowable indicator is activated by determining whether the flowable indicator has changed in color or color intensity; and

comparing the activated flowable indicator to a reference color to characterize skin condition.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ waiting further for the flowable indicator to activate if the user has determined that the flowable indicator is not yet activated.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ determining appropriate cosmetics for use with the characterized skin condition.

38. (Currently Amended) A method of employing a flowable indicator for characterizing skin condition, the method comprising ~~the following steps~~:

applying the flowable indicator to a desired area of skin, wherein the flowable indicator is reactive with at least one substance found on the skin so as to change in color or color intensity in response to exposure to the at least one substance[[;]] and wherein ~~activating~~ the flowable indicator is activated to change color or color intensity in response to ~~through~~ a reaction of the indicator with the at least one substance found on the skin after a period of time;

comparing the activated flowable indicator to a reference color to characterize skin condition; and

determining appropriate cosmetics for use with the characterized skin condition.

39. (Currently Amended) A method of employing ~~a flowable~~ an indicator for characterizing skin condition, the method comprising ~~the following steps~~:

applying the ~~flowable~~ indicator to a desired area of skin, wherein the indicator is reactive with at least one substance found on the skin so as to change color or color intensity, wherein~~;~~ ~~activating~~ the ~~flowable~~ indicator is activated to change color or color intensity in response to~~through~~ a reaction of the indicator with the at least one substance found on the skin after a period of time;

providing a visual reference color for comparison of the activated ~~flowable~~ indicator to a standardized reference ~~to determine skin condition comparing the activated flowable indicator to the visual reference~~ to characterize skin condition.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 and further comprising ~~a step of~~ determining appropriate cosmetics for use with the determined skin condition.

41. (Currently Amended) A system for characterizing skin condition, the system comprising:

a spreadable indicator suitable for application to human skin, the indicator being reactive ~~and visually changeable when in contact with~~ to ~~the~~ oil on human skin so as to visually change color or color intensity in response to contact with oil on human skin, wherein ~~the~~ a degree of visual change of color or color intensity of the indicator is representative of the amount of the oil in contact with the indicator; and

a reference relating a plurality of possible visual changes of color or color intensity of the indicator to a plurality of skin conditions~~, whereby a user can~~ so as to enable a comparison of ~~compare~~ the reference to the visual change of the indicator to characterize a skin condition of human skin due to the amount of the oil on the human skin in contact with the indicator.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein the spreadable indicator is a facial mask.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 42 wherein the facial mask is a clay-based mask.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 42 wherein the facial mask is a polymer-based mask.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein the spreadable indicator is a gel.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein the spreadable indicator is a powder.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein the indicator comprises at least one dye soluble with oil found on human skin to effect the visual change of the indicator.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein the reference comprises indicia representative of the plurality of possible visual changes of the indicator.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 49 wherein the indicia comprises a color chart.